



Patent

Attorney's Docket No. 1018995-000452

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of	)	Group Art Unit: 1618
Nishizumi NISHIMUTA et al.	)	Examiner: Zohreh A. Fay
Application No.: 10/046,575	)	Confirmation No.: 4939
Filed: January 16, 2002	)	
For: EXTERNAL PREPARATION FOR	)	
SKIN DISEASES CONTAINING	)	
NITROIMIDAZOLE	)	

**REPLY**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In complete response to the Office Action mailed on August 1, 2006, applicants provide the following response. Reexamination and further and favorable reconsideration of the subject application in light of the following remarks, pursuant to and consistent with 37 C.F.R. § 1.112, are respectfully requested.

The Office Action mailed on August 1, 2006 was in response to applicants' submission of a Request for Continued Examination and Amendment and Reply filed with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on May 26, 2006.<sup>1</sup> In the Office Action, the Examiner has maintained a single rejection. In particular, claims 1, 13, 14, and 31 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Goodman et al. (WO 98/27960) (hereinafter, the "Goodman PCT publication") in view of Fleischer (1999, abstract only), or Fleischer (1999) and Miller et al. (1980, abstract only).

<sup>1</sup> The statement on page 2 of the Office Action that such submission was filed on June 5, 2006 is incorrect. According to the Image File Wrapper ("IFW") for this application as set forth on the Public PAIR System, a fee worksheet was entered on June 5, 2006, but the IFW shows that the filing date of the RCE and Amendment and Reply was on May 26, 2006.